

PAPERS READ
BEFORE THE
LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1912.

"History herself, as seen in her own workshop."

THE SUN FIRE COMPANY OF LANCASTER
MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING

VOL. XVI. NO. 6.

PRICE TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER COPY.

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THE SUN FIRE COMPANY.

The following interesting compilation from the minutes of the Sun Fire Company of Lancaster was written by the late Ferdinand A. Demuth, who was a member of the Historical Society:

In compiling these extracts from the minutes of the Sun Fire Company, the writer has taken only such matter as he judged will be of interest, as many of the minutes of the meetings, although held regularly each month, have only the names of members not present, and a list of fines collected from members who were absent at previous meetings. No mention is made in any of the minutes that any monies were given or appropriated by either the county or borough of Lancaster to purchase or keep in repair the fire apparatus, and the service must have been maintained by dues, fines and contributions of the members of the various companies, who owned the engines, ladders, hooks and axes in common, and kept them at various places as appear in the minutes. The company meeting was held at the house of a member, and the place of next meeting fixed either by written notice or resolution.

Unfortunately, the minutes are missing from July, 1776, to the meeting which was held at the Court House on the 25th of September, 1779, and this is the first meeting at which the names of the members present were given. At a meeting held on February 19, 1780, it was changed, giving the names of those absent.

Whereas, the Publick would receive great Benefit by Fire Companies being established in this Borough of Lancaster, and as we the Subscribers are desirous to associate by the name of the Sun Fire Company, do mutually agree to the following Articles.

The above is the heading of the Constitution and By-laws, which follow in twelve articles, for the formation and government of the company and equipment of its members for fires.

Article 1 makes each member provide himself with two leathern buckets, one bag and convenient basket, the bag made of good, strong linen or wide linen, containing at least three yards, with running string at the mouth, and have names of owners and company, and the word Sun painted on, and shall be kept ready at hand, and applied to no other use than hereby intended.

Article 2 provides a fine of one shilling for each of the buckets, bags and baskets if the member does not provide same.

From the second to the ninth articles the rules for members, collection of fines, places of meeting, are provided for, and are of no special interest, but Article 10 is rather odd, and is given in full as follows:

"That if the house of any widow, whose deceased husband was a member of this company, be in danger from fire, we will each of us give as much of our assistance as if her husband was living, she keeping her buckets, bags and baskets in good order."

The following are the names of the subscribers to the foregoing articles, the tenth day of December, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-Three: William Bawman, Bernard Hubley, Christian Wertz, George Mayer. Philip

Lonhare, Michael Groff, Casper Shaffner, Sr., Jacob Weaver, William Bush, Philip Baker, Christopher Breidenhart, Michael Gross, Paul Weitzel, John Barr, George Strickler, John Spore, Marcus Young, John Hambright, Abraham Dehuff, Daniel May, Casper Singer, John Henry, Simon Snyder, Michael Fortine, Casper Shaffner, Jr., Christopher Heyne, David Stout, Nicholas Job, George Eberly, John Eberly.

The next meeting of the company was held at the house of Mr. John Barr, on the 17th day of December, 1763, and the following extracts are from the minutes:

"The company agrees to meet on the third Saturday in every month, and at such house as the clerk for the time being may appoint.

"The company agrees that, in case of fire, the members of the company shall immediately (on the ringing of the alarm bell) repair to the house on fire, with their buckets, bags, etc., and being there shall strictly observe and perform to the utmost of their power the parts assigned and appointed to them, as follows:"

Here follow the duties assigned to the members of the company, the members being divided into groups of from two to six:

To assist the possessor of the house on fire, in taking care of and securing his household goods, etc.

To put and keep the people in order for handling the water in the buckets from the pumps or other place to the engine.

To assist in playing and taking care of the engine.

To assist in working the engine.

To assist at the fire with axes.

To carry the ladders to the fire.

To assist in carrying the fire hooks to the fire, and working with them where necessary.

To get upon the roof of the house on fire, if necessary and practicable.

At this meeting it was agreed that Bernard Hubley, Marcus Young and William Bawman be a committee to confer with the Friendship and Union Fire Companies.

From the above article and the report of the committee to the next meeting of the company, held on Saturday, January 21, 1764, it is evident that the several companies were acting jointly for the purchase of ladders, hooks and a new engine.

The following articles were adopted:

"Third Article—Agreed that two ladders be provided at the expense of the three companies, thirty-five feet long, which shall be locked to the hooks of the Court House, and three keys be procured for each lock, which ladders shall be used in no case but at a fire, under the penalty of ten shillings, and the public ladders now in hand shall be used in no other manner than as those above ordered to be made.

"Fourth Article—Agreed that the persons appointed to carry the engine, ladders and hooks to the fire take care to return them to the place or places appointed for the said ladders and hooks under penalty of two shillings for each refusing so to do or not assisting therein.

"Fifth Article—Agreed that the steps of the ladders be made of locust wood, three inches by one, and three iron ones in the ladder at each end and at the center, and the ladder shod with iron.

"Sixth Article—Agreed that new poles be provided for the fire hooks, and that the chains be ten feet long.

"Seventh Article—Agreed that the engine be made by William Henry, and that it be made larger than the one we have at present."

The above articles were read and considered by the company, but a change was made in the ladders, making the steps of white oak instead of locust, and to remain on the hooks unlocked instead of locked.

Article Second, of this meeting, had no bearing on the general purpose of the meeting, but is included as a reminder of good behaviour on the part of the members at the meeting. The article was as follows:

"Agreed that if any member indecently and without cause after the company enter on business, disturb and prevent the company from doing business, or behave so as to be obnoxious to the company, it shall be the power of the majority company, met by note, to dismiss the said person from being a member and erase his name out of the list."

The next meeting of the company was held at the house of John Eberly, Saturday, February 18, 1764, and from the article following it is evident that the members of the Sun Fire Company, at that early date, deserve mention for the first attempt to light the streets:

"Agreed, That upon every accident of fire happening within the borough, every member of the company shall fix a lighted candle in a front window, or over the front door of his house, for the convenience of the people going to and from the fire."

At a meeting held on July 16, 1768, at the house of John Epley's, "it was agreed by the company that a ticket of the publick Philadelphia Lottery should be purchased out of the company's stock, and that Barned Hubley shall purchase the same."

At a meeting of the company held January 23, 1773, "George Moore was discharged from paying his fine for neglecting to warn the company to

meet on the third Saturday of this instant, and that by reason of warning the company on the fourth Saturday of this month, occasioned by Michael Fordine's fire."

At a meeting held on August 20, 1774, it was unanimously agreed that six tickets of the Conestoga Lottery "should be purchased for the use of the company, and they were likewise purchased by Cas. Shaffner. The numbers of the said tickets were as follows: 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080."

At a meeting held April 15th, 1775, at the house of John Feltman, few members were present. At this meeting "Messrs. Atlee, Vogt and Boyd, as a committee from the Union Fire Company, waited upon this company to confer with them in respect to the allowance to be made to Charles Hall for his care of the fire engines since December, 1773, and to determine if the engines are to be left under the care of Mr. Hall. Upon consideration of this meeting it was thought best to refer it to a full meeting of the company, and the succeeding clerk is ordered to give notice in the tickets to members—and some of this company shall wait on the Union and desire their attendance."

At a meeting held at the house of John Widley, on January 20, 1781, "it was agreed by a majority of the company that the fines should be one shilling specie, or if exchange for not attending at each meeting for each private member of five shillings specie or if exchange for the clerk not doing his duty, and the succeeding clerk is to give notice to the members of proceeding, and the clerk is also to give notice to the treasurer and members that there is to be a settlement at the next meeting."

This settlement was made at a

meeting held March 17, 1781, and the amount on hand at the last settlement, January 16, 1776, was 17 shillings, to which was added by settlements with the previous treasurer, Casper Shaffner, £23 17s, and fines up to June 15, 1776, making a total of £42 14s. 8d. This amount was placed on interest June 16, 1776, and continued until March 17, 1781, the interest being £11 2s 5d, making the fund £53 17s 1d. The amount expended during the same time was £3 9s 5d, leaving a balance for the company of £50 17s 1d.

There was also on hand a balance of Continental currency of £102, which is not included in the company account.

The auditors of this account, which is certified as correct, were William Bawsman and Matthias Young.

At a meeting held on March 17, 1781, at the house of Charles Drum, "it was agreed that no liquor should be called for until after roll calling, and that each member calling for any liquor is to pay for it himself."

At a meeting on July 17, 1781, at the house of Christian App, Peter Hoofnagle and John Miller were appointed to provide a petition and send it to the Assembly, to have an act passed for the better regulating the inhabitants of the Borough of Lancaster, in respect to providing for fire buckets and other articles, etc.

At a meeting on the 24th day of January, 1759, "at ye house of Mr. Adam Weaver, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. Frederick Steinman, Mr. John Miller, Jacob Fry and Jacob Bailey are appointed to be a committee to attend the members of the Union Company at their next meeting, and in case they have not a meeting then the members aforesaid are to meet the Grand Jury to consult

with them to raise money for a new engine." It was agreed at this meeting that Mr. John Miller and Mr. Jacob Frey are to ask Mr. Adam Reigart for the money belonging to the Sun Fire Company in the hands of Mr. Jacob Kagay's estate.

It was agreed that "if any whose turn it may be to be clerk is to take good care not to neglect to give notice to meet on the third Saturday of the month; if he neglects, he is liable to pay a fine of five shillings, without the benefit of the clergy."

At a meeting March 21, 1789, at the house of Jacob Frey "it was agreed that the county tax assessed on each of the members of the company will be paid by order of the Commissioners of this county towards the fire engine and to agree with the Union Company."

At a meeting held on March 19, 1791, at the house of Jacob Frey, it was resolved "that Adam Weaver and William Batsman are appointed to consult the Corporation about a new house to be built for the use of the engines, and the same time to consult with the Union Company."

At a meeting December 17, 1791, of the Union and Sun Fire Companies, at the Court House, Jasper Yeates was chosen chairman. "It was proposed that two persons should be proposed out of the Union Fire Company and two persons out of the Sun Fire Company to superintend and direct the alteration of the engine house, in such manner as fully and conveniently to hold the different engines, with their pipes ready screwed on, and the same was carried in the affirmative. Whereupon Messrs. Adam Reigart, Andrew Keiss, Paul Zantzinger and Godlieb Nauman were duly chosen for that purpose.

"It was also agreed that two sluices

be fixed at proper places on the Orison run and one sluice on the Vine street run, in order to collect the water in case of the calamity of a fire; and that a bill of the expenses attending this work be submitted to the Commissioners of the county, as a proper public charge, to be paid by the county at large. It being suggested that a nightly watch and lighting of the streets of the borough would be attended with much public advantage, it is agreed that Jasper Yeates, Matthias Slough, Joseph Simons and Geo. Ross, of the Union Fire Company, and Frederick Steinman, Frederick Frick, Jacob Lahn and Christopher Myer, of the Sun Fire Company, be a committee to meet on the Corporation, praying them to use their efforts to have a law passed for that purpose."

At a meeting of the members of the different fire companies in the borough of Lancaster on Saturday, November 24, 1792, pursuant to special agreement for that purpose, Jasper Yeates, Esq., was unanimously chosen chairman. "It appearing at the meeting that the fire engine deposited near Gen. Edwd. Hand's is much out of order, and that the box thereof will not contain water, it is agreed that the same be forthwith fully sheathed with copper, and that Frederick Steinman be engaged to do this business."

"It is unanimously agreed that the two fire engines belonging to this borough be put under the care and direction of Peter Getz, to be by him kept in good order, and that he be paid the sum of £4 10s for his services therein."

"Mr. Zantzinger reported that they had deposited the four keys of the engine house adjoining Mr. Jacob Bailey as follows: One with Gen. Hand, the second with Mr. Jacob Bailey, the

third with Mr. App, and the fourth with Mr. Zantzinger. For the engine house opposite the Moravian Church as follows: One with George Musser, the second with Mr. Thomas Foster (in Philip Dean's House), the third with Mr. Andrew Keiss, and the fourth with Mr. John Hambright."

At a meeting of the company held on Saturday, the 15th day of July, 1797, at the House of Godleib Nauman, this was adopted: "Whereas, Casper Ehrman, being requested by this company to tell in what condition he found the new engine belonging to this company, stated that he found her in a leaky condition.

"Resolved, That the four members who are entrusted with the care of the same, examine her and make report at the next meeting."

MINUTES OF JUNE MEETING

Lancaster Pa., June 2, 1912.

The Lancaster County Historical Society met in regular monthly session this evening.

The librarian, Miss Lottie M. Bausman, presented the following report:

Bound Volumes—"The Justice of the Mexican War," from the author, Charles H. Owen; "Sherman Day's Historical Collections of Pennsylvania," from Mrs. Elizabeth H. Ruff, of Montgomery, Ala.

Magazines and Pamphlets—Abstract of the Proceedings of Grand Lodge, F. and A. M., of Pennsylvania; Annals of Iowa; Penn Germania; "The True John Dickinson" (from Hamilton Library Association, Carlisle); the Linden Hall Echo; International Conciliation, three numbers; large number of magazines (including Blackwood and Harper's) from Mr. Francis R. Calder; Bulletins of New York Public Library, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Grand Rapids Public Library; Mitteilungen des Deutschen Pionier-Vereins.

The following were elected to membership: Miss Anna Geltmacher, 660 West Walnut street, this city; Miss Mary A. Baker, 353 North Queen street, this city; H. C. Demuth, this city; W. M. Nixdorf, this city; Christine E. Metzler, 28 Cedar street, Boston, Mass. The name of Miss Anna C. Grove, of Marietta, was proposed for membership.

Mr. W. U. Hensel submitted the following report of the committee to arrange for the portrait exhibition:

"Your committee appointed to consider and to confer with the Iris Club on the subject of a joint or co-operative movement to prepare and publish a history, and to collect and display an exhibition of portraiture in Lancaster county, respectfully represents:

"That it met with prompt response from the directorate and membership of the Iris Club; and it is of opinion the project can be made a literary, artistic and financial success. After a conference with a like committee from our sister society and with its approbation we recommend:

"1. That a date be fixed between November 15th and December 1st, 1912, for the exhibition, to last ten days or more, and that the same be displayed in the Iris Club house.

"2. That the Historical Society undertake to exploit the work of Lancaster portrait painters and of Lancastrians in portraiture, and to procure and publish a series of historical papers relating to the same.

"3. That your Society's committee, co-operating with a like committee from the Iris Club, be authorized to secure the assistance of all local artists and other persons interested in art to promote the exhibition contemplated and to invite contributions to the same.

"4. That the committee be authorized to appoint and secure a Finance Committee of public-spirited citizens who will raise a fund to provide for the necessary police protection and fire insurance of art works loaned.

"5. That this exhibition be restricted to oil and water color portraits, metallic and plastic figures, bust and medals, miniatures and silhouettes; and that its purpose shall be to select the best specimens of each artist's work and subjects representative of Lancaster county citizenship.

The Historical Society Committee consists of W. U. Hensel, B. C. Atlee, Redmond Conyngham, Mrs. Mary N. Robinson and Miss Martha M. Bowman.

The Iris Club Committee is composed of Misses Frazer, Anna E. Herr, S. R. Slaymaker, Laura G. Slaymaker and Mrs. E. T. Prizer.

They have already selected the following members of the Auxiliary Committee, to be enlarged from time to time:

Lloyd Mifflin, honorary chairman; Walter C. Hager, vice chairman; Geo. H. Danner, George Steinman, S. P. Ziegler, J. Augustus Beck, Jacob W. Deichler, Miss Blanche Nevin, Miss M. Emma Musselman, Miss Caroline Herr Peart, Mrs. James D. Landis, Miss Alice Malone, Miss Nevin, Miss Mary L. Kline, Mrs. Leon von Ossko, Miss Purple, Miss Lucretia Stoner, Mrs. C. S. Foltz, Charles H. Demuth, G. L. FonDersmith, D. McN. Stauffer, Rev. A. T. G. Appel, A. R. Beck, Miss C. W. Appel, Miss Florence Eckert, Miss Anna M. Myers, Miss Lettie Herr, Miss Katherine A. Griel, Miss Grubb, Miss Alice R. Appenzeller, Miss Mary Muhlenberg, Miss Helen Thurlow, Miss Virginia Gerhart, Miss Frances Calder, Mrs. Henry S. Hiestand, H. M. North, Jr., J. Hale Steinman, Miss Della Leaman.

An early meeting of the entire committee will be called, and plans will be formulated to enlist general popular interest in the exposition. Persons will be secured to write papers on Lancaster and its workers in the art of portraiture; and the collection of the productions of each particular artist of any considerable output will be assigned to different sub-committees. Many who are the owners of

these historic works have already volunteered to loan them, and systematic efforts will be made to procure a general and representative display.

Mr. Hensel has agreed to prepare a paper for the September meeting on Eichholtz, the artist, and his works; Mrs. Robinson is gathering material for a sketch of Landis; the Messrs. Beck will collect reminiscences of the earlier portrait painters of Lancaster county; and a group of the younger members of the committee will collect works of contemporary painters.

"Resolved, That the report of this committee be received and approved, that this society adopt its recommendations and authorize the committee to have them carried out."

The report was adopted.

Mrs. A. K. Hostetter, chairman of the committee on the Burrowes celebration at Strasburg, presented a report of the event, and the part the society took in the exercises.

Mr. H. Frank Eshleman presented the report of the committee which is planning for the celebration to be held in the fall. The report is as follows:

To the Officers and Members of the Lancaster County Historical Society.

Your committee, appointed to consider the question of holding appropriate public exercises in commemoration of some local historical point or event, or in recognition of the public services of some worthy local personage of the past, and erecting a suitable marker in perpetuation of the memory of the same, under the auspices of the Society, beg to report that:

1. We first took under consideration the advisability of commemorating the death and marking the graves of

the Revolutionary soldiers buried in unmarked graves in a Reamstown cemetery, who fought and became sick or were wounded, in the battle of Brandywine.

We traced out all the historical data to be had in the short time allotted to us, on this subject; and considered the facility of securing a boulder measuring up to the dignity and size required by the record and reputation of this organization. A sandstone boulder of four to six tons weight, or more, could easily be secured in the locality of Reamstown, as such stones abound there, and the same could readily be transported by trolley.

But the historical knowledge requisite to a proper observance of the event stated is yet too meagre and incomplete to undertake such a step.

The bibliographer in chief of the Congressional Library gave your committee an excellent list or source books of information upon the battle of Brandywine, including all phases of it. But the regiments and companies engaged—the killed and wounded, etc.—are not ascertainable with any accuracy, from any data yet brought to light. At least, to ascertain first the fact that such soldiers were buried at Reamstown with certainty, and, secondly, the names of them or some of them, are two lines of work initially to be taken up. We recommend to our members a zealous search into these interesting questions.

The sources of information briefly looked into by us are T. C. Amory's *Military Services and Public Life of Major-General John Sullivan*; Daniel Harris' account of the Battle of Brandywine, who gives a partial list of officers killed; B. J. Lossing's *Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution*; W. W.

MacElree's Along the Western Brandywine; Bulletin No. 8, relative to Battle of Brandywine in Penna. Historical Society; also Bulletin No. 7, Account of Battle of Brandywine in same Society; C. J. Stille, on Major General Anthony Wayne and the Pennsylvania Line; F. D. Stone, on the Battle of Brandywine; Thomas Sullivan's extracts from the journal of Sergeant Thomas Sullivan, of the H. M., 49th Regiment of Foot, and Justin Winsor's Handbook of American Revolution.

We have ascertained from these that Washington's army consisted of the brigades of Muhlenberg and Weedon, forming General Greene's division; Wayne's division; Proctor's artillery; the brigades of Sullivan Sterling and Stephens; but we have not found any list of the regiments forming these various organizations at the date of the battle. We hope we can secure such a list from the War Department. F. D. Stone, in his article on the battle says: "On the old (Pennsylvania) muster rolls that have come down to us, many are returned as killed at the battle of Brandywine." As Stone wrote in 1908, these muster rolls are likely still accessible. At least, they invite a search in the Pennsylvania Archives, where certain rosters are printed.

We make note of these preliminary researches for the purpose of giving the members of our Society, and others concerned in this interesting question, starting points from which requisite knowledge (for erecting a stone over the remains of the patriots of the Revolution, whose ashes lie within our county) may be derived. They died for American liberty.

An elaborate map, showing the locations of the opposing lines and giv-

ing the names of certain regiments, etc., was published, according to act of Parliament by Wm. Faddon, Charing Cross, April 13, 1778. We have examined it, and it will be of considerable aid in the future commemoration of the Reamstown Revolutionary heroes.

We sought out all the information to be had from citizens of Reamstown, but nothing more than the traditional was brought forth. Evans & Ellis' History of Lancaster County states that at the time of the writing of that work some dates and names were decipherable upon the time-worn tombstones of these heroic dead of the Revolution, buried at Reamstown. We are informed that nothing at all is decipherable now. This illustrates the importance of not delaying the project any longer than the time necessary to get reliable data requires.

While we of Lancaster county have made a good start, we are yet very lax in our interest in and our effort upon the whole task of preserving the precious relics of the by-gone, considering the fact that this county is very rich in historical treasure, and the fact that she has over two centuries of the past in her storehouse.

II. Your committee next turned to another project for commemoration. The locality about Rockford, on the Conestoga river, contains the home of General Hand, famous and valiant in the Revolutionary War; at the same point on the stream Robert Fulton began his experiments with wheel-propelled boats; here, too, reaching out into contiguous Lancaster town, and now city, scores of stirring events of the Revolutionary War were enacted.

Williamson Park extends down to

the junction of the Lancaster and Big Springs road with the road to Rockford; and at that corner of the park offers a fine site for the erection of a marker (and perhaps the stone from which a boulder could be quarried, saving transportation), or perhaps a large natural face of rock, which could be dressed up to receive an appropriate plate. At any rate, no better stage could be imagined on which the the scenes of the past could be set with better environment, or with more dramatic effect, than the western corner of the Park. The fact that it is a public park makes it at once an appropriate place for the exercises intended.

In making the above recommendations, the committee is somewhat influenced by certain considerations which were presented some years ago in a local publication by a member of the Society who has always taken an active interest in these annual historical celebrations; and, as part of our report, we herewith submit, with slight adaptations, what was then said to be the fitness of this proposed celebration:

"Our local Historical Society has been doing especially fine work in its annual popular celebrations, and in erecting enduring monuments. Our civic trophies had fit commemoration in the Fulton Centennial in 1909; and the significance of the Pennsylvania-German settler on our soil had its day of song and story in 1909; and the significance of the Abolition opposition to slavery was commemorated in the sixtieth anniversary of the Christiana Riot and Treason Trials. It would be most fit to have a 1912 celebration on the banks of the Conestoga, in the shadow of Indian Hill, and to foregather around "Rockford," for many years

the home of General Hand. The place would be most suitable and picturesque, and the theme would stir every instinct of patriotism.

About such a celebration could be grouped a hundred vivid local incidents of the Revolutionary War, having their scene in Lancaster county, and their participants among the quota it furnished to the cause of freedom. It would recall the early ardor of Shippen, Ross, Yeates, Slough, Webb, Atlee Henry, Lauman and Bausman, of Lowry, Feree, Irwin and others; the heroism of Archibald Steele, and the intrepid young John J. Henry, of the Quebec campaign; the achievements of Burd's and Grubb's battalions; Zanzinger's company of the "Flying Camp;" the rifle and musketry battalions of Miles and Atlee; the romantic story of the British prisoners' captivity in Lancaster, and other easily-verified facts far more romantic than current fiction. And what a fine thing it would be to wander down along the meandering Conestoga and come across a granite pillar or pyramid with some such inscription as this:

Here
at
"Rockford"
Lived and Died
Gen^r Edw'd Hand.
A Soldier of the Revolution,
A Citizen of the Commonwealth,
Born in Ireland, Commissioned
By the King of England to fight
For British Rights.
After he had Resigned
His Commission and Retired
To Civic Life the Wrongs
of an Oppressed People
Summoned Him to the Defense
of Anglo-American Liberty
Which He Helped to Establish
With His Sword and Pen.
He Lived and Died
Respected by His Contemporaries
Whose Descendants Have
Gratefully Reared This
Stone to Mark the Place
He made the Home of
A Soldier, A Statesman and
A Gentleman.

Your committee, therefore, report that after several meetings and due consideration of the subject:

First. They have elected Hon. W. U. Hensel a committee on finance and general arrangement, who is to enlarge the committee as he sees fit, to proceed with the finances and arrangements for a commemoration of the events that cluster about Rockford and vicinity, and for the erection of a suitable marker, under the auspices of the Society this autumn, in September or October, if the Society approve of such event.

Second. If the said committee on finance and general arrangement consent to accept the appointment and assume the steering and general arrangements of the projects, your committee recommended to the society, the above-mentioned commemoration of Rockford and vicinity.

Third: This committee having performed the duty assigned to them, beg to be discharged.

H. F. ESHLEMAN,
A. K. HOSTETTER,
D. F. MAGEE,
MRS. M. N. ROBINSON,
MRS. S. B. CARPENTER.

The committee on Manheim's Old Home Week reported that the invitation to participate in the festivities had been accepted and arrangements made to have the Society represented.

The paper of the evening was a history of the early years of the Sun Fire Company of Lancaster. It was compiled from the old minute book by the late Ferdinand Demuth. The paper was read by Miss Lottie Bausman.

Mrs. Robinson read the following interesting clipping:

The Historical Society of Cumber-

land County has taken steps to preserve an interesting house in Shippensburg. It was erected earlier than 1730, and was a public house in 1750, when there was granted for it what was probably the first liquor licence given to a woman in Pennsylvania. Janet Piper was the proprietress, according to the records, and her house was used for holding Court when all this part of the State was a part of Lancaster county. The Judges came away over from Lancaster and held Court in Miss Piper's house, because it was convenient and because Miss Piper was a good cook. But it was dry, just like Shippensburg is to-day, and the Court and Bar frequently got thirsty. The nearest still was along the mountain, so the Court granted Janet Piper a license to "sell by small measure such as ye laws of ye province allow." The house is near the dividing line between Franklin and Cumberland counties, and the Kittochtinny Historical Society will interest itself with the Cumberland county historians in its preservation.

asking the Society to assist in the

An invitation was received from the local Independence Day Committee, day's exercises.

On motion adjourned.

